

SEED COLLECTORS' NEWSLETTER

Volume 5

2006

The State Nurseries have a variety of seed needs for the fall of 2006. A very special emphasis is being placed on the harvest of White Pine, Red Pine, Tamarack, Black Ash, White Birch, and Hard Maple.

White Pine and Red Pine can be found in plantations or dispersed throughout the woods. The cones can also be found in animal caches, hidden under leaves and debris. Because of the sticky pitch on White Pine cones, plastic gloves and old clothing are a must. It is also helpful to use applications of "Go Jo" on your gloves while picking, to keep the resin from sticking.



White Birch Catkins



Picking Tamarack Cones

Tamarack can best be picked by getting permission to cut trees down. Hard (Sugar) Maple and White Birch can be harvested by hand picking. Maple can also be harvested by tarping the ground after leaves have fallen and shaking the branches. This can be done by throwing a weighted rope into the tree and, while holding both ends of the rope, jerking the rope. Be sure not to pick the birch catkins until the date indicated so that the male catkins will have pollinated the females and fallen off the trees already.

Black Ash is found on wetter sites and is generally a low land species. The seed is flat, twisted, and looks like a fat exclamation point. If you are uncertain as to whether a tree is black, white, or green ash; tear off a branch with seed on it and bring it to a State Tree Nursery or DNR station near you for proper identification prior to harvesting.

Before picking on any public lands, check regulations. You can gather on Federal lands with a permit. In State Forests you should notify the property manager to obtain a picking permit. It is illegal to pick in State Parks. On private lands, be sure you get permission from landowners before you enter private property and begin picking. If you will follow these simple guidelines, you will locate sites where you can harvest this year and in the years to come.

Check maturity of conifer seed before picking. To do this, cut open a cone and observe the seed for ripeness. When ripe the seed will be firm and the seed coat will be brown.

Species being purchased this year and the prices being paid are listed below. Purchase start dates are approximate times when seed begins to ripen.

Please call before collecting any seed to be sure the State Nursery Program has not yet reached its goals and is still purchasing the specie you want to pick; and to confirm correct identification and quality of seed.

STATEWIDE GOALS & APPROXIMATE DATES

SPECIE	HAYWARD	GRIFFITH	WILSON	Total Statewide Projected Raw Seed Need for 2006-2007	Units	2006 Proposed Prices-Adjusted after July 3, 2006	DATE TO BEGIN PURCHASE
Hemlock	X	X		13	bu	\$200.00	09/30/2006
Pine, Red	X	X		1,700	bu	\$40.00	09/01/2006
Pine, White	X	X	X	2,800	bu	\$20.00	08/20/2006
Tamarack	X	X	X	167	bu	\$200.00	08/01/2006
Ash, Black	X	X		10	bu	\$80.00	09/17/2006
Ash, Green		X	X	10	bu	\$30.00	09/17/2006
Ash, White	X	X	X	10	bu	\$40.00	09/17/2006
Basswood	X	X	X	40	bu	\$40.00	09/17/2006
Birch, White	X	X		5	bu	\$150.00	09/30/2006
Butternut	X		X	70	bu	\$15.00	09/17/2006
Cherry, Black	X	X	X	695	lbs	\$5.00	08/13/2006
Hickory, Shagbark			X	20	bu	\$40.00	08/11/2006
Maple, Hard	X	X	X	86	bu	\$80.00	09/17/2006
Oak, Bur			X	120	bu	\$25.00	09/06/2006
Oak, Red	X	X	X	275	bu	\$30.00	09/17/2006
Oak, Swamp White		X	X	60	bu	\$70.00	09/06/2006
Oak, White	X	X	X	200	bu	\$30.00	09/06/2006
Walnut			X	1,780	bu	\$3.00	09/25/2006
Dogwood, Red Osier	X	X	X	150	lbs	\$5.00	09/08/2006
June Berry	X	X		38	lbs	\$5.00	07/02/2006

BUYING STATIONS

Location	Contact	Phone #	Hours
GRIFFITH NURSERY BUYING STATIONS:			
WI Rapids			
(Griffith Nursery)	Mary Plamann	(715)424-3700	8am-4pm
Neillsville DNR	Chris Schmitz	(715)743-5134	by appt.
Shawano DNR	Eric Roers	(715)526-4222	by appt.

HAYWARD NURSERY BUYING STATIONS:

Barron DNR	Chris Rucinski	(715)537-5046	by appt.
Eau Claire DNR	Chris Widstrand	(715)839-3782	by appt.
	Pat Murphy	(715)839-3760	
Florence Res Ctr	Stuart Boren	(715)528-4400 x112	by appt.
Hayward Nursery	Marie Zellmer	(715)634-2717	8am-4pm
Medford DNR	Greg Mitchell	(715)748-4955	by appt.
Menomonie DNR	Jay Jordan	(715)232-1516	by appt.
Rhineland DNR	John Gillen	(715)365-2635	by appt.

WILSON NURSERY BUYING STATIONS:

Baraboo DNR	Rick Livingston	(608)355-4475	by appt.
Boscobel			
(Wilson Nursery)	Linda Evans	(608)375-4123	8am-4pm
Darlington DNR	Matt Singer	(608)776-3064	by appt.
Fitchburg DNR	Steve Holaday	(608)275-3234	by appt.
Horicon DNR	Randy Stampfl	(920)387-7884	by appt.
Lancaster Youth &	Linda Evans	(608)375-4223	by appt.
Ag Bldg (walnuts—Mon-Thurs 1-3:30 pm)			
Sturtevant DNR	Randy Cooper	(262)884-2390	by appt.

Payment

A voucher payment system is used. A copy of the voucher is given to seller and a check will follow in the mail. It has been taking from two to four weeks to receive payment.

W-9 forms are no longer required.



Cleaning Seed

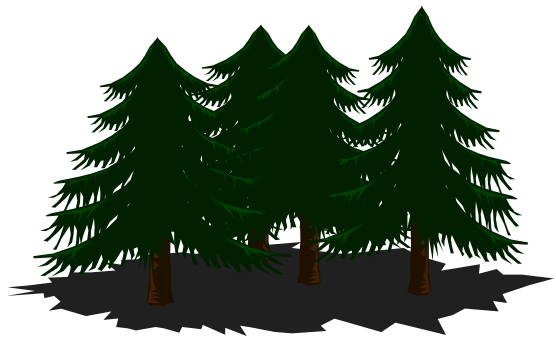
All acorns except Bur Oak should be floated in water. Acorns that sink are generally considered good acorns and those that float should be discarded. Rocks and rotten

acorns sink and must be removed. Rocks will damage the seeders at the nursery. If seed is not clean when it arrives at the nursery, you may receive a price reduction.

Seed Storage

You must store your seed in a cool, dry location and deliver the seed to a buying station as soon as possible to prevent seed from over heating or molding. Storage should be in a breathable container.

For those with white oak quotas, they should be stored in a cool place and brought to a buying station as soon as possible. White oak tends to sprout quickly. *The nursery may reject acorns with radicals longer than 1/2".*



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